

Message Text

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17

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-11 OMB-01 COME-00 SAM-01 /082 W

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R 031026Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

SECSTATE WASHDC 0015

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEL AVIV 0838

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN

SUBJECT: ALLENBY BRIDGE CROSSINGS

1. EMBASSY HAS NOTED RECENT INCREASE IN NUMBER OF AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN AND TOURISTS REQUESTING ASSISTANCE IN CROSSING ALLENBY BRIDGE TO JORDAN FROM ISRAEL (OR, MORE CORRECTLY, FROM ISRAELI-CONTROLLED TERRITORY). SINCE WE ANTICIPATE THAT THIS TRAFFIC WILL INCREASE DUE TO RELOCATIONS OF COMPANIES FROM BEIRUT TO AMMAN, IT IS REQUESTED THAT EMBASSY AMMAN PROVIDE US CURRENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON VISA REQUIREMENTS AND RECOMMENDED PROCEDURES FOR ENTRANCE TO JORDAN VIA ALLENBY BRIDGE (WITH COPY TO CONGEN JERUSALEM).

2. SPECIFICALLY, WHAT ARE NEAREST POINTS TO ISRAEL AT WHICH TOURISTS/BUSINESSMEN MAY APPLY FOR JORDANIAN VISAS? IS IT POSSIBLE FOR BUSINESSMEN ALREADY IN ISRAEL TO OBTAIN VISA WAIVERS THROUGH PRIVATE COMMUNICATIONS WITH WELL PLACED CONTACTS IN JORDAN, AS HAS BEEN ALLEGED BY SEVERAL RECENT CALLERS? IS IT ANTICIPATED THAT GOJ WILL MODIFY VISA REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESSMEN IN LIGHT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UPSURGE IN TRAFFIC FROM ISRAEL? IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING

THAT, AT PRESENT, PERSONS ENTERING JORDAN FROM ISRAEL IN POSSESSION OF A VALID VISA ARE NOT PERMITTED TO RETURN TO ISRAEL VIA ALLENBY BRIDGE. WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION.

3. GOI MINISTRY OF TOURISM CONFIRMS THAT ISRAEL CONTINUES TO PERMIT EXIT AND ENTRY VIA ALLENBY BRIDGE AND THAT PERSONS WISHING TO AVOID HAVING AN ISRAELI ENTRANCE STAMP PLACED IN THEIR PASSPORTS WILL BE PERMITTED TO DO SO WITH ONLY THE ENTRY/EXIT CARD STAMPED AT THE BORDER.

4. IF AMMAN HAS NO OBJECTION, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR DEPARTMENT TO REMIND PERSONS CONSIDERING A VISIT TO JORDAN VIA ISRAEL OF NECESSITY OF OBTAINING JORDANIAN VISA PRIOR TO THEIR ARRIVAL IN ISRAEL. EMBASSY BELIEVES IT WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL IF THIS REMINDER COULD BE INSERTED IN INFORMATION DISSEMINATED BY COMMERCE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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